



PATENT.  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 08203.0030.01000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Frank BONADIO et al. ) Group Art Unit: Unknown  
)  
Application No.: 10/600,812 ) Examiner: Unknown  
)  
Filed: June 20, 2003 )  
)  
For: APPARATUS FOR USE IN )  
SURGERY AND A VALVE )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449 forms. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Thirty four (34) of the listed references were previously submitted in a prior application, Application No. 08/641,811, filed May 2, 1996, upon which Applicants rely for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120.

Copies of the remaining one hundred and six (106) references are enclosed.

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Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO 1449 forms.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 5, 2003

By:   
Michael L. Woods  
Reg. No. 50,811

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

OMB No. 0651-0011

Atty. Docket No.	08203.0030.01000	Application No.	10/600,812
Applicant	Frank BONADIO et al.		
Filing Date	June 20, 2003	Group:	Unknown

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	1,157,202	10/1915	McLeland			
	1,598,284	08/1926	Kinney			
	1,810,466	06/1931	Deutsch			
	2,219,564	10/1940	Reyniers			
	2,305,289	12/1942	Coburg			
	2,695,608	11/1954	Gibbon			
	2,835,253	05/1958	Borgeson			
	3,111,943	11/1963	Orndorff			
	3,244,169	04/1966	Baxter			
	3,332,417	07/1967	Blanford et al.			
	3,347,226	10/1967	Harrower			
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	3,397,692	08/1968	Creager, Jr. et al.			
	3,522,800	08/1970	Lesser			
	3,523,534	08/1970	Nolan			
	3,570,475	03/1971	Weinstein			
	3,729,006	04/1973	Wilder et al.			
	3,782,370	01/1974	McDonald			
	3,797,478	03/1974	Walsh et al.			
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	3,841,332	10/1974	Treacle			

Examiner	Date Considered
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\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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	3,907,389	09/1975	Cox et al.			
	3,915,171	10/1975	Shermeta			
	3,965,890	06/1976	Gauthier			
	4,024,872	05/1977	Muldoon			
	4,030,500	06/1977	Ronnquist			
	4,096,853	06/1978	Weigand			
	4,130,113	12/1978	Graham			
	4,188,945	02/1980	Wenander			
	4,228,792	10/1980	Rhys-Davies			
	4,239,036	12/1980	Krieger			
	4,367,728	01/1983	Mutke			
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	4,654,030	03/1987	Moll et al.			
	4,777,943	10/1988	Chvapil			
	4,889,107	12/1989	Kaufman			
	4,895,565	01/1990	Hillstead			

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Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
		4,903,710	02/1990	Jessamine et al.			
		4,950,222	08/1990	Scott et al.			
		4,984,564	01/1991	Yuen			
		4,991,593	02/1991	LeVahn			
		4,998,538	03/1991	Charowsky et al.			
		5,041,095	08/1991	Littrell			
		5,045,070	09/1991	Grodecki et al.			
		D 320,658	10/1991	Quigley et al.			
		5,125,897	06/1992	Quinn et al.			
		5,158,553	10/1992	Berry et al.			
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		5,178,162	01/1993	Bose			
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		5,211,370	05/1993	Powers			
		5,213,114	05/1993	Bailey, Jr.			
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		5,248,304	09/1993	Vigdorchik et al.			
		5,263,922	11/1993	Sova et al.			
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		5,299,582	04/1994	Potts			

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	D 346,022	04/1994	Quigley et al.			
	5,309,896	05/1994	Moll et al.			
	5,316,541	05/1994	Fischer			
	5,342,385	08/1994	Norelli et al.			
	5,350,364	09/1994	Stephens et al.			
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	5,366,478	11/1994	Brinkerhoff et al.			
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	5,429,609	07/1995	Yoon			
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	5,522,791	06/1996	Leyva			
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	5,545,179	08/1996	Williamson, IV			
	5,634,911	06/1997	Hermann et al.			
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	5,640,977	06/1997	Leahy et al.			
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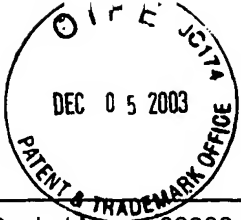
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	5,653,705	08/1997	de la Torre et al.			
	5,672,168	09/1997	de la Torre et al.			
	5,707,703	01/1998	Rothrum et al.			
	5,741,234	04/1998	Aboul-Hosn			
	5,741,298	04/1998	MacLeod			
	5,755,660	05/1998	Tyagi			
	5,769,783	06/1998	Fowler			
	5,803,921	09/1998	Bonadio			
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	6,163,949	12/2000	Neuenschwander			
	6,183,486	02/2001	Snow et al.			
	6,346,074	02/2002	Roth			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
	WO 86/06272	11/1986	PCT			
	WO 92/11880	07/1992	PCT			
	WO 92/21292	12/1992	PCT			
	WO 93/05740	04/1993	PCT			
	WO 95/05207	02/1995	PCT			
	WO 95/07056	03/1995	PCT			
	WO 95/22289	08/1995	PCT			
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	WO 96/36283	11/1996	PCT			
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	WO 97/32515	09/1997	PCT			
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	GB 1,496,696	12/1977	UK			
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	GB 2,255,019	10/1992	UK			
	GB 2,275,420	08/1994	UK			
	EP 0,142,262	05/1985	Europe			
	EP 0,537,768	04/1993	Europe			
	1,456,623	09/1966	France			No
	DE 37 39 532	12/1988	Germany			No
	DE 37 37 121	05/1989	Germany			No
	DE 296 00 939	06/1998	Germany			No
	10-108868	04/1998	Japan			No

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